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LEVEL ONE

NOVEMBER 18, 1958

THE MENNONITE

OTHER FOUNDATION CAN NO MAN LAY THAN THAT IS LAID, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST

"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God" (Luke 4:4b).

editorials

I AM THANKFUL

For health and strength and work
For abundant food and ample clothing
For home and its attending comforts
For a loving companion to share life's joys and sorrows
For busy children and happy grandchildren
For good neighbors and kind relatives
For loving and hospitable friends
For older people with their rich experiences
For little children with great possibilities
For rest and sleep when tired and weary
For hobbies that relax body and mind
For bright sunshine and refreshing rain
For clouds and stars and sunsets
For the changing seasons, each with its contributions
For the fruits and vegetables of garden and field
For the beauty and wonder of birds and flowers
For green leaves of spring and colored leaves of fall
For the privilege of informative and inspirational travel
For good books and leisure for reading
For good music and poetry to uplift the soul
For the progress of medicine in its conquest of disease
For hospitals, doctors, and nurses to care for the ill
For unnumbered kindnesses of people all about us
For the gift of conversation and the art of listening
For useful inventions and labor-saving conveniences
For the hardships which humble and strengthen us
For problems to solve and decisions to make
For the difficulties that build staunch faith
For dreams and visions that lure us on
For varied experiences and new adventures
For memories that bring peace and joy
For opportunities of sharing in needy causes
For the privilege of serving our fellow men
For a country granting freedom of worship and conviction
For a loving and merciful Heavenly Father
For Christ who came to show us the Father
For forgiveness of sins through Christ our Lord
For the Bible and the Way of Life it presents
For the Church and its world-wide fellowship
For prayer and its cleansing and compulsive power
For faith and hope and courage to press on
For the assurance that God is always available and dependable
For the privilege of co-operating with God in His Kingdom
For the mighty power of Love, its beauty and results
For the opportunity of being channels of God's love
For God's help in turning every experience into a blessing
For the assurance of Immortality in the life beyond
For the coming joy of meeting those gone before
For the many unnumbered blessings surrounding us everywhere.

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of things to come

Nov. 27—Thanksgiving Day, U. S. A.
Nov. 30—First Sunday in Advent
Dec. 2-5—Council of Boards, Newton, Kansas.
Dec. 14—Universal Bible Sunday
1959
March 8, 1959—Conference Sunday
Aug. 5-12, 1959—Ministers' and Church Workers' Retreat, Camp Friedenswald, Mich.
Aug. 12-20, 1959—General Conference, Bluffton, Ohio

THE MENNONITE

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Let Us Be Thankful

THE Psalms have given us two statements which might well hold statements which might well hold our attention this Thanksgiving season: "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving," Ps. 100:12, and "What shall I render unto the Lord?" Ps. 116:12. These two statements may be rendered *thanks living* and *thanks giving*.

Why indeed should we render thanks? Why indeed should we give?

We give because of our genuine love and sincere gratitude to God. It is always thus God loved: He gave. If we truly love, if we are grateful, we too will give. The two go together and are inseparable.

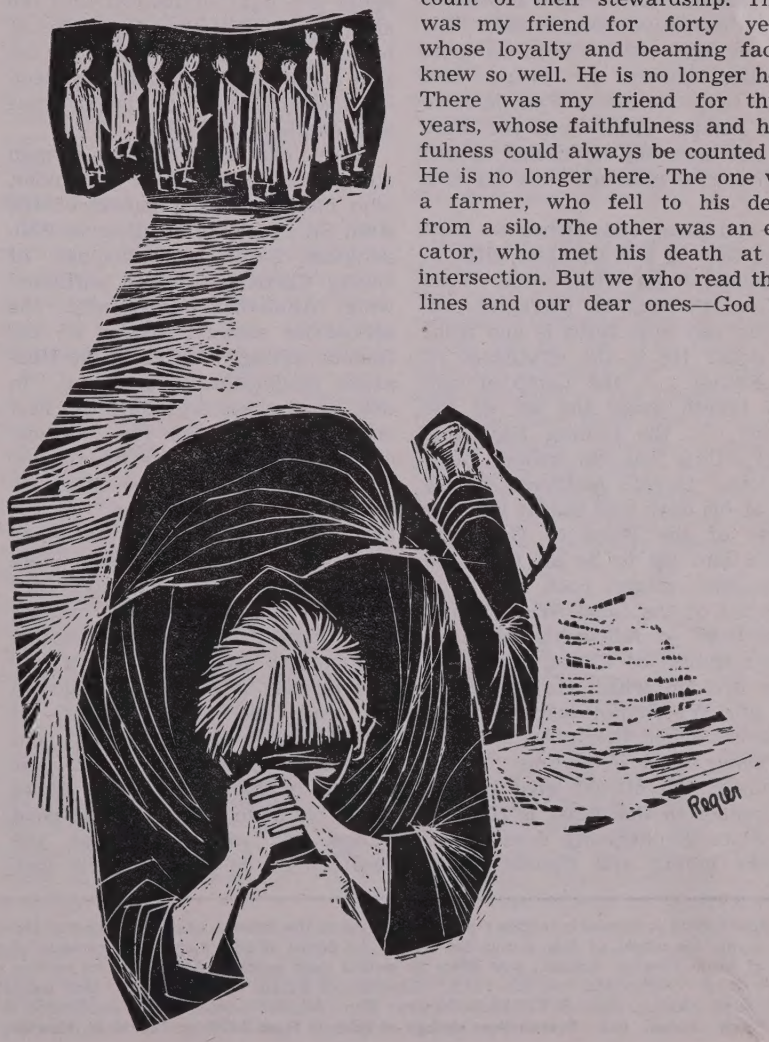
How much we need this sense of gratitude! Gypsy Smith used to tell the story of how he went to visit an old gypsy aunt who had cared for him after his mother's early death. The aunt was lying on her deathbed. As Smith entered the gypsy wagon, he said, "Aunty, shall I kneel down and ask God to bless you?" The old woman replied, "No, my boy! Kneel down and thank God that He has blessed me." *That* is the spirit we need—a spirit which looks in gratitude to God for what He has done. Human nature tends too often to slip up on gratitude.

Ten lepers came seeking cleansing at the hands of Jesus. Standing afar off, they lifted up their voices and cried, "Master, have mercy on us." All went to the priest to be healed, according to the law of Moses; all had faith that healed. Nine went their way, never saying "Thank you." They had faith, but only one had love. Love is greater than faith. One turned back, with a loud voice glorified God, fell on his face, and gave thanks. Here was thanks living.

In the Gospel of John is the beautiful story of Mary, who wanted to bestow her love upon Jesus. It was six days before the Passover. So she took a pound of pure nard, very precious, and anointed the feet of Jesus as a love token. Judas, holding the bag, viewed the expenditure as misplaced. But to Mary it was the measure of her love to Jesus. If we love, we will give. What is the measure of our love? What form does our thanksgiving take?

We give, secondly, as our stewardship becomes a vital, burning issue in our souls and consciousness. By what egoism do we consider what we gather as our very own? The earth is not ours—it belongs to God, its Creator. We would have not even a single breath to live, had not God given it to us. We are stewards of this earth, of a small patch of green on this earth which may be our farm, on which may be our home or our factory or place of business. We give, then, not what is ours, but what is truly God's. What we keep is not ours to possess, but merely ours to use. Let us, therefore, as this year 1958 draws to a close, render an account of our stewardship.

• So far in this year 1958, we have received approximately 322 days to live—that is, we who read these lines. Not all have received so many days: we know those whose lives have been snuffed out, who have been called to their heavenly Home, there to give an account of their stewardship. There was my friend for forty years, whose loyalty and beaming face I knew so well. He is no longer here. There was my friend for thirty years, whose faithfulness and helpfulness could always be counted on. He is no longer here. The one was a farmer, who fell to his death from a silo. The other was an educator, who met his death at an intersection. But we who read these lines and our dear ones—God has



permitted us to remain. These 322 days were not ours to do just as we pleased, but to use to His glory as He would have us use them.

• We have our fields and our gardens, our jobs and salaries, the income from our savings and investments, our homes and our children. These things are not ours but God's gift of love to us. What precious gifts God has given us in our homes, with their security as the shades of night close in daily upon us; in our children (and to some, grandchildren) as they show their love or embody faith and hope afresh; and in our bountiful gardens and fields.

If we are stewards, we are bound to return to the Lord what is His share. To do less is to harm ourselves the most. Only usurpers fail to do so. Matt. 21:33-41.

A personal letter from a Mission Board executive commented, "The harvest this year has been the most bountiful harvest in years, and crops from Mexico to Canada have been bumper crops, and yet there has not been any noticeable upturn in giving to missions thus far this year."

• And then, what riches we have from God in His greatest gifts to mankind—Jesus Christ—the Word of God—the church. Have we considered just who Jesus is and what He does? He is the effulgence of the Father . . . the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world . . . the coming King and Ruler. "Unto you who believe, he is precious." David's testimony at the end of his days was that it was the power of the Word of God that raised him up to be all that God made him: singer, poet, ruler, the anointed of the Lord. What a precious bond of fellowship we have in the church of Christ, which He loved and for which He laid down His life. We cannot take all these resources which God gives us without being under obligation.

Thirdly, we should give thanks and render to God what is His due for what thanksgiving does to us. Thanks giving and thanks living

Author S. T. Moyer, former missionary to India, is now the pastor of Bethel Church, Pekin, Illinois

are a kind of spiritual alchemy. In the middle ages learned men sought through chemistry to practice alchemy, to transmute lead and iron into gold. Thanks giving and thanks living are a kind of spiritual alchemy.

Thanksgiving is better than alchemy. It can brighten the dullest day. It can change loneliness into communion with God. It can give peace in place of anxiety. It will bring the light of heaven into the sickroom. It will shed that light of heaven onto our daily pathway, so that our trials seem small and fleeting and our blessings appear great and everlasting.

Many years ago I heard a sermon from the lips of Dr. J. C. R. Janvier, who had once been pastor of the Arch St. Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia. Later, as principal of Ewing Christian College, affiliated with Allahabad University, he served as summer pastor of the famous Kellogg Church in the Himalaya Mountains, in Landour. In one of a series, he called the first chapter of Romans the "darkest chapter of the Bible," especially vv. 24, 26, 28, because three times we read "God gave them up." In the list of sins as to why God gave them up was this, that men were not thankful. "Knowing God, they glorified him not as God, neither gave thanks." If it was so terrible then not to give thanks, is it any less terrible now when we go on our way, heedlessly enjoying all sorts of things for our pleasure and for our good, and then run on our way, never thanking those at whose hands we have received these good things, nor turning to God, the great Giver, to pray, "Thank you, God"?

When we dwell upon the mercy and faithfulness of God, we cannot possibly remain unthankful. The Pauline phrase is "grace abounding unto thanksgiving." In a certain church in the east there was a brother who in routine fashion followed his round of Christian activities and did not give anything in a special way. One day his pastor came to him suggesting that he could give, that he should give. He began to give—and what joy came into his heart, what change came into his life and home! All saw it. Then after that he gave more and more, and found the joy of his Christian life in giving to the limit of his ability. The spiritual alchemy was at work. He knew it. Others perceived it.

Forty years ago I heard of a farmer further west. He had never given anything to missions, nor much to the church. He sold his butter and eggs, but his customers and neighbors found him hard to deal with, crabby in spirit. Then he was persuaded to give to the cause of Christ, His church, and His world-wide mission. The farmer's whole disposition was changed. His neighbors remarked on what a transformation had come into his life. The spiritual alchemy was at work.

One of the loveliest hymns on thanksgiving was written by Joseph Addison two and a half centuries ago, entitled "God's Mercies." He wrote twelve verses, three of which are as follows:

When all Thy mercies, O my God,
My rising soul surveys;
Transported with the view I'm lost,
In wonder, love, and praise.

Ten thousand thousand precious gifts,
My daily thanks employ,
Nor is the least a cheerful heart,
That tastes these gifts with joy.

Through all eternity I'll raise,
A joyful song I'll raise,
But oh! Eternity's too short
To utter all Thy praise.

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Your Minister's Income

*Burton G. Yost**

DID you ever consider the relation between what you pay your minister and the witness your church has in the community? The question of the pastor's salary has a bearing not only on him but also on the whole ministry of the congregation. A failure in stewardship at one place may show up at other places.

Time, Energy and Worry

Your minister is human. His economic concerns are just as real as yours. He spends a good deal of time figuring out how to save, where to get bargains, how to meet the budget. With that time goes energy that might be saved and used elsewhere.

For instance, your pastor may spend several half days looking for a bargain in a washing machine (or trying to fix the old one). If he is successful he may save $50, but he has robbed his congregation of those several half days. Or he may be paying costly repair bills simply because he doesn't have the capital for a new machine.

Most of us have gone to church, one time or another, with worries that keep us from really worshiping like we should. Did you ever think that financial worries could take the edge off your pastor's sermons? Salary concerns can drain his enthusiasm.

But your minister doesn't want to be carried around in ease, and he expects the usual amount of financial difficulties. The question is, "Do we as laymen want to compound those worries in such a way as to dull his ministry?"

Witness in Home Missions

The minister's salary in home mission work is usually the lowest among the churches. Because of this, the church or mission committee has difficulty getting a pastor and often takes anyone who is willing to come. This sometimes means an inexperienced, ill trained, less capable individual. Then, because of the low salary, the minister stays only a short time and the congregation is again faced with the long process of getting another worker The plain truth is that low salaries invite inferior workers and rapid turnover. Is this the way to build strong churches and to save souls?

We are, in effect, saying to our home mission worker: "Young man, we are sending you into a difficult field, and we are asking you to work under impossible financial circumstances, but, young man, we are expecting great results!" It is good business when establishing a branch office or store to staff it with "better" personnel and to give good financial backing so that it has every chance of success. Should we expect much return if *we* don't invest much?

What About Part-time Work?

When a minister "has to" find part-time employment in addition to his church work, obviously the congregation has only a part-time minister. In addition to that, what does this situation say to the community?

Such a church is telling the community several things: (1) "We do not think much of our minister—he's not worth paying full wages"; (2) "We as a church have poor vision as to the importance of the ministry and the work of the church"; (3) "We consider that every other worker who is employed full-time is of more value to the community than the minister. He's nice to have, but he doesn't contribute enough to the community to deserve full wages."

Needless to say, such a church is not going to infect very many with the good news of the gospel and the glory of the abundant Christian life. The church says to the community just what any business which pays poor wages says: "We're a cheap outfit."

Any church that has twenty wage earners can support a full-time pastor. And any church that has 175 members and whose minister or minister's wife has to work on the side is making a poor witness in the community.

What About Potential Ministers?

It is obviously true that no man enters the Mennonite ministry for the money. And, I think, low salaries keep very few out of our ministry, praise the Lord! But I am convinced that the way we handle this income business is detrimental to the calling of our young men.

For instance, suppose a boy grows up in a home where conscientious Christian parents are always "helping out the poor minister" with gifts of food and used clothing. The parents mean well and probably the minister appreciates it, but can you imagine a young man with vision and ambition being *attracted* to a vocation that must exist on the charity of others?

Or take another instance, those annual meetings. My own boyhood impression of those meetings is this: the "interesting" part of the meeting was the discussion of the pastor's tenure and salary. It was "interesting" because this was where the blood ran hot and the nerves were quick, and consequently the discussion descended to a low level.

I was also impressed by how wonderfully quickly we could rise from that low discussion to the lofty heights of Christian love by singing "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love" as the minister returned to the meeting. The tie must have been love, it surely wasn't money. Can the congregation "speak the truth in love" better when the minister is absent? I say these are *my* boyhood impressions. How many other boys were similarly impressed?

So What Then?

Let's realize just what we are doing to a minister's vision, enthusiasm, and efficiency when we ask him to serve under our salary conditions. Let's also see what we are doing to our home mission program by paying inadequate salaries. Consider what we are saying to the community when our pastor must work part-time at other employment. Let's check ourselves on our words and works in encouraging young men to enter the ministry. In other words, let's take time to realize what a minister's salary means to him and to our church's witness.

*Pastor, Upper Milford Church, Zionsville, Pa.

Shinto Wedding in Hokkaido

William Zehr and Paul Boschman

LOVE her? No, not yet. How could I — we have seen each other only once or twice, and never had a date. My uncle and aunt arranged our marriage, and I am quite confident in the quality of their judgment. What is more, if we should have any marital difficulty, they will be our counselors. Real love will come after marriage—that's what my father tells me."

Bride and groom arrived at 3:15 p. m. at the local centuries-old Shinto shrine, in a late model Chevrolet taxi. The bride took her place in the shrine beside her husband to-be, and the close family members entered and were seated: the groom's relatives to the bride's left, and the bride's relatives to the groom's right.

Bride and groom sit before the holy altar of the Shinto shrine. The lady seated in back of the wedding couple is the middleman's wife.

Left: family members and guests receive sake in small cups, poured by one of the shrine attendants. Right: all kneel before this altar, on which holy items have been placed.

Without any singing, music of any kind, or even words, the son of the priest conducted the cleansing ceremony. This consisted of waving a paper wand over the altar, the bridal couple, and the guests (he missed us!). The elderly priest then began a series of prayers and chants.

The major part of the service followed with the ceremonial drinking of holy wine (sake). Two of the girls in attendance poured wine into the shallow cups placed before the bridal pair. The groom drank three times from each of three cups, a total of nine times, and the bride did likewise. We were told that when the bride drinks from the cup, that is when the couple become man and wife.

It is interesting to note that the Japanese word for this cup ceremony, *sakazuke*, is the same word used in the Bible for the communion cup of the Lord's Supper.

The guests all received a similar portion of the sake (we were not guests), after which they all drank in unison, symbolizing the marital union. The union was then sealed by the silent kneeling of the bride and groom before the altar, after which they circled the altar, each going in opposite directions, and returned again to their seats.

Entertainment was simple and brief. In special shrine apparel the priest's daughter played the *kato* and danced before the main altar to the accompaniment of a bamboo flute played by her father.

At 3:45 the wedding came to an abrupt close. We followed the guests as they left the shrine, happy for the kindness shown to us by the priest but inwardly sad that another home had begun without the blessing of the living God.

"Love Him? How could we—we have never met Him. Perhaps someone will show us the way. . . ."

Of the 63,483 cans contributed by local canning projects in 1957-1958, slightly over half — 31,783 cans — were donated by the Lancaster Conference Mennonites, who operate a stationery canner two miles from Akron, Pennsylvania. Thus as many were given by this group as by all other groups combined.

The Seminary Board of Trustees signs the Memorandum of Agreement Between Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries. Seated, left to right: vice-president J. N. Smucker, secretary R. L. Hartzler, president A. S. Rosenberger, treasurer Elmer Baumgartner, seminary president Erland Waltner, and Olin Krehbiel. Standing, left to right: Arnold Nickel, William Keeney, A. E. Kreider, Willard Claassen, John Wichert, J. Herbert Fretz, and Earl Salzman.

Highlights

of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Inauguration

Most members of the Board of Trustees arrived in time for the inauguration of President Erland Waltner on Sunday afternoon. Two

For years the Eastern District has held youth retreats. These retreats, both good and necessary, do not, however, provide opportunities for youth on the district level to do things together. Mennonite youth need to be together socially, in service work, and in worship experiences. It is true that retreats provide fellowship and study time. Along with it must be other occasions for regular fellowship together—times when youth can discuss problems among themselves, occasions for real worship experiences without adults, and opportunities for social and recreational experience and service activity—all as a group of Mennonite youth.

It is in these three areas—worship, service, and fellowship—that the Eastern District YPU executive committee has been striving to serve with both suggestions and actual programs. The annual YPU Conference is held on the Conference retreat grounds at Men-O-Lan. At this conference, usually held on

This, to us, is the Lord's doing."

It was reported that there are thirty new students, considerably more than any previous fall enrollment. The total was reported to be

meeting held on June 13 we discussed and outlined those activities we will be sponsoring during our 1958-59 year. To inform district

development to date. Of this amount $142,500 came from the sale of the Chicago properties, $297,500 came through contributions and $240,000 was borrowed from the.bank who

live in the area of the First Mennonite church. The primary task was teaching Bible school in a bus and on the sidewalks, and provid-

OFFICERS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT YPU. *Seated, left to right: Ralph Shelly, service chairman; Bertha Mae Reiff, fellowship chairman; Joanne Mill, secretary; Ray Hacker, president. Standing, left to right: John Slotter, faith and life chairman; Marietta Landis, vice-president; David Bower, treasurer; Henry Grimm, pastor-counselor.*

ing wholesome recreational periods.

August 31—*Men-O-Lan Labor Day Bible Conference.* At this annual Bible Conference the YPU is responsible for planning and directing recreation and taking charge of one session.

September 20-21 — *Leadership Training Clinic.* At this clinic, conducted for youth advisers and presidents, we had fifteen of our churches represented. Our main emphasis at the clinic was on demonstration and training techniques plus a critical analysis of the Counselor's Manual. Peter Kehler, Seminary student, served us well as clinic leader.

October 4—*Hayride.* This type of fellowship on a district level was a first for us. The response of 140 youth indicates their endorsement for making it an annual event.

October 1-31—*Project Month.* This project is similar to workdays which many of our colleges have been sponsoring for years. The youth are doing eight hours of work on some job and turning their earnings over to the Men-O-Lan Board for the swimming pool fund. The amount earned is not yet known, but it is hoped that after several more annual workdays we will be able to see our project become a reality.

The remainder of our calendar is as follows:

November 9—Youth supper at Peace Rally, held in the Grace Mennonite Church, Lansdale, Pa.

December 30 — Roller skating party.

April 4-5 — Annual district YPU workshop and banquet.

April 19 — Exchange night between district YPU's.

May 3—Afternoon youth program at Eastern District Conference, Schwenksville, Pa.

May 30—Annual YPU Conference at Men-O-Lan.

Our district YPU is also responsible once each year for conducting the Sunday school service and a vesper service at our Home for the Aged at Frederick, Pa.

One of the highlights of our YPU earlier in the year was the writing and presenting of a drama called *The First Protest Against Slavery.* This drama was first presented in the Germantown Church as one of the special services which have been held this year to commemorate the 275th anniversary of the coming of the Mennonites to America. It was also presented at the Bethel Mennonite Church in Lancaster and at the Deep Run Church at the annual Eastern District Conference sessions.

The primary method of keeping our youth informed and challenged is through the youth page in the

Faith Smith and Sarah Kratz of the Grace Church, Lansdale, Pa., with Philadelphia children. This local VS project took place last August.

Messenger, our Eastern District bimonthly publication. Ralph Shelly is presently serving as youth editor.

Under our YPU constitution we have approved the lengthening of the term of office for members of our executive committee from one to two years. In order that a completely new team is not installed every two years we have made provision for having half of the offices expire each year. At the past session Marietta Landis was elected vice president (president-elect); David Bower, treasurer; and John Slotter, Faith and Life Chairman. Ray Hacker moved up to president, while Joanne Mill, secretary; Ralph Shelly, service chairman; and Bertha Mae Reiff, fellowship chairman, began their second year on the committee. Henry Grimm, pastor of the Hereford Mennonite Church, Bally, Pa., serves as pastor-counselor.

Our committee is composed of three definite age groups, enabling us to present the views of all of our youth. Ralph, Joanne, and Ray are of post-college age; Bertha Mae and Marietta are students at Philadelphia Bible College; David and John are high school students.

A new responsibility was given to our YPU as a result of the adoption of a new constitution by the Eastern District Conference. This constitution provides for a nine-member retreat committtee—six to be elected by the Conference and three by the YPU. For the first time our youth have an official voice in helping to plan and organize the various retreats. Cordell Geissinger, Ronald Myers, and Robert Gerhart are the three young people elected by our YPU to this important committee. This youth representation should help to arouse new interest in our youth retreat. We were privileged this past summer to have Jacob Friesen, pastor-counselor of the General Conference YPU, serve as Bible teacher at the youth and junior high retreats.

One of the all-important tasks of an executive committee is that of promoting the budget. We have been happy for the wholehearted support we have been receiving from our various youth fellowships. Our proposed budget for 1958-59 is as follows:

General Conf. YPU.....	$ 675.00
Philadelphia VS	200.00
Eastern Dist. Expenses..	225.00
Men-O-Lan	200.00
TOTAL	$1,300.00

General Conference Mennonite personnel serving under the Board of Christian Service in one-, two-, and three-year terms totals thirty-one at the beginning of November. Thirteen are 1-W's, eighteen are in VS, eight are missions Paxmen, and five are in relief and rehabilitation.

They serve in nine projects:

Chicago: Daniel and Kathryn Hirschler

Congo, Africa: Larry Bartel, Larry Graber, John Janzen, Paul Roth, Wilmer Sprunger, Larry Unruh

Formosa: Palmer Becker

Gulfport, Miss.: Edna Ruth Buller, Glendon and Reitha Klaassen, Eldeen Stucky, Donald Yoder

India: John Pauls

Mexico: Tina Fehr, Helen Friesen, Rod Huebert, Mary Neufeld, Elfrieda Rempel, Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Schrag, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Stucky, Esther Unruh, Margaret Warkentin

Montana: Lyman Mueller

Philadelphia: Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Graber

Rosthern, Saskatchewan: Francis Flaming, LaVern Schmidt

Western District Youth Meet

The Western District Youth Fellowship met October 18-19 for their sixty-sixth annual youth rally and conference, on the campus of Bethel College, North Newton, Kan. Guest speaker for the series of sessions was Dr. Jesse H. Ziegler, professor of Christian Education and Psychology at Bethany Biblical Seminary. Three sessions comprised the 1958 Youth Conference: a planning session on Saturday, Oct. 18 in the afternoon; an all-Mennonite Youth Banquet held this year in the Guest House Cafeteria in Newton; and finally the Mennonite Youth Rally held in conjunction with and part of the Western District Conference on Sunday night, Oct. 19.

Significantly, the youth delegates to the planning session approved again the recommendation of the officers to sponsor with their time and contributions a week of free Christian camping for underprivileged city youth in a Fresh Air Friendship Camp at Camp Mennoscah. The highlight of the business session was an illustrated report by the Youth Advisor, O'Ray Graber, on the 1958 outreach camp and the service this gave to twenty-one underprivileged youth from Kansas City, Wichita, and Hutchinson, Kan. A budget item of $525 was approved for 1958-59 for this project.

Plans were announced to begin work and fund solicitation for a future swimming pool at Camp Mennoscah. The kick-off cue was the announcement that an offer by certain unnamed persons stated that the Youth Fellowship could receive double its money within a six month period if the Youth Fellowship would repay its debt on the Staff House project. The challenge was accepted by the Youth Fellowship, and youth groups were officially asked to sponsor a fund raising campaign or drive to make this stupendous offer materialize.

Officers were elected with the result that Melvin Goering, Bethel College, was elected to the first vice-presidency and will become the president of the Youth Fellowship in 1959. Clyde Goering was elected as second vice-president and Dorothy Galle was elected secretary-treasurer. Other elections placed Robert E. Unruh, Kingman, and Ed Stucky, Moundridge, on the Board of Trustees; and Vernon Pauls and James Waltner on the Retreat Committee. Fred Unruh continues to serve for another year as president of the Youth Fellowship.

Figures released by the trustees placed the net worth of the facilities of Camp Mennoscah, which is owned and operated by the Youth Fellowship, at better than $50,000. In addition to the camp facilities, Camp Mennoscah also has a farm which is operated and managed by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Froese. The camp and farm are located about thirty miles south of Hutchinson, Kan.

—Fred Unruh

Marie Snider points out the problems of practicing pretense

"Sine Cera"

In the old days when marble pillars were made, a pillar would sometimes be imperfect.

The dishonest craftsman would fill in the imperfection with wax, which the buyer could not distinguish from marble. But the scorching of the sun and dashing of the rain would gradually wear away the wax, and the true imperfection of the pillar was revealed.

This practice of deception was so common that buyers were very careful to buy a pillar "sine cera," or without wax. And so was born our word sincere.

"Sine cera" . . . without wax . . . without pretense . . . What does it mean to be "sine cera" in our homes? with our friends? with our neighbors?

Do we really mean what we pretend to mean? Are we honest when we speak? when we act? Can our friends believe and trust us? Are we always "sine cera"?

One evening recently I went with my husband to visit a couple who expressed a growing interest in the Christian faith. We found them with several in-laws watching TV. They cordially invited us to stay. But we weren't sure. Were they "sine cera"? Were we welcome or not. . . .

The attractive young co-ed assured her roommate she could borrow her favorite jersey blouse anytime. Was she "sine cera" or was she secretly thinking, "Why can't you buy your own?" . . . .

The busy young mother of five said to the new mother, "Let me know when I can babysit for you." A generous offer—or did she mean "You should have offered to babysit for me long ago" . . . .

Grandma complimented the preacher, "I enjoyed your sermon so much." Did she? Or was she planning the dinner menu for unexpected guests? . . .

Was Shakespeare, after all, right? Is all the world a stage and are all the men and women merely players?

Is all of life play-acting? saying the proper thing? pretending? Are we bound to this for our three-score years and ten? Or can we be socially "sine cera"? Can we believe one another?

Sincerity, openness, honesty,—are these not the Christian qualities of life? Except we be without wax, without pretense, how can our lights pierce the dark selfishness which surrounds us?

Except we be as genuine as the humble Nazarene, how can we minister healing to the brokenness of personality of our neighbor?

—*The Canadian Mennonite*

The MENNONITE YOUTH section is sponsored by the Young People's Union of the General Conference. Editor, Muriel Thiessen, 3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, Indiana.

PLAN FOR EXPANSION

The Bluffton College Board of Trustees met Oct. 31 for their semi-annual session. Primary interest was focused on the expanding student enrollment and various problems which this will raise.

The report of Dean Kreider pointed up the urgency of such considerations. The college has experienced an increase of ten per cent or more for the fourth consecutive year.

Harry Yoder, assistant to the president, gave the results of a series of meetings held in five states the past year, designed to obtain reactions from the various groups that support the college. According to the advice given by representatives of the supporting groups, college enrollment should increase to 500 or slightly larger in the years to come. They believed that as space becomes scarce, the college should become increasingly more selective, and thought that the constituency would be willing to support financially the program necessary to care for this larger number of students, and that they would be ready to give from one to five per cent of their income annually to do this.

Dr. Ramseyer presented the building program that would be essential in order to provide for such an increase of enrollment: an addition to the library, a fine arts building, and additional dormitory space. Science Hall and the present music building should be remodeled.

The Board acted to approve planning for a campaign to raise $750,000 in order to meet the essential needs as outlined by Dr. Ramseyer, and received with favor the report of business manager Carl Lehman, which indicated that the Currrent Fund had been balanced. Mr. Lehman also reported that arrangements have been completed to borrow sufficient money to cover the indebtedness as a result of the present building program. Harry Yoder had earlier reported the progress of the Expansion Campaign, and indicated that there was still one year left in the current endeavor to raise funds for the building program.

BUREAU RECEIVES CITATION

The Freeman Junior College chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America has received a citation for the most unique project of any chapter in the United States. The citation was made at the national convention of the FBLA in St. Louis last summer. The project, now in its sixth year, is a secretarial bureau whose chief function is to give business students actual office experience to equip them for full-time jobs. The Bureau does many types of office work, not only for college personnel but for many individuals and organizations in the Freeman area.

HONOR ROLL

The following Freeman Junior College students were on the Dean's honor roll list for the first six weeks: Verlyn Fast, DeLayne Graber, Arlyss Hofer, Patsy Jenzen, Fern Kleinsasser, Cora Miller, and Evelyn Unruh. Dianne Waltner and Eunice Zook received honorable mention.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CHRISTIAN NURSES

A one-year advanced course in Human Relationships and Psychiatric Nursing for graduate nurses is being offered for the first time by Prairie View Hospital, Newton, Kan.

The purpose of the course is to provide clinical training for nurses who are expecting to go into general or psychiatric ward nursing. It aims to help the nurse to an understanding of the complexity of mental illness and psychiatric treatment. A further objective is to help the nurse mature in her human relations and develop abilities to function as an interdependent member of the psychiatric team. The 44-hour weekly schedule includes regular classes, supervised ward nursing, and laboratory work. If desired, six quarter hour college credits will be granted upon satisfactory completion of the course.

There will be three specific openings a year on a rotating basis. Applicants will be selected according to their aptitudes and their ability to meet the personal qualifications established by the hospital. A training-service salary of $130 a month will be provided. Nurses may enter this program on a Voluntary Service basis also. Elsie Martin, R. N., a graduate of Duke University who served at Prairie View previously and recently returned to become Director of Nursing, will supervise the new program.

A packet of materials describing the program in more detail is available on request from the Akron MCC offices or Prairie View Hospital.

EVANGELISM FIELD TRIP

On Nov. 4 the Evangelism class of Mennonite Biblical Seminary gave an interesting report of their field trip to Chicago the previous week end. The group went for the specific purpose of presenting a program at the Chicago Christian Industrial League. This is a rescue mission stressing vocational rehabilitation.

Gordon Dyck, senior, gave the message at the mission, and other members of the group provided special music. After the service they met with men who came for counseling and prayer. Oscar Wedel later described the unity felt in prayer regardless of social, moral, and religious differences, and how prayer together filled the gap that logical discussion failed to fill.

The class spent the night at Reba Place in Evanston, Ill., and breakfast with the group the following morning gave opportunity for the sharing of questions and concerns. The Reba Place fellowship is a small experimental community which has come together for the purpose of putting into practice what they believe to be the Anabaptist principles of Lordship of Christ and brotherhood.

The class also visited the Broadway Methodist Church and attended a lecture on "The Dead Sea Scrolls and the New Testament" by William F. Albright at Bethany Biblical Seminary.

GROENING SPEAKS IN CHAPEL

Many Canadian Mennonite Bible College students have in past years made their church home at Bethel Mennonite Church, so we welcome Pastor Groening's frequent visits in chapel. On Tuesday he reminded us of our responsibilities as students of God's Word. The Conference looks to the college for youth workers, Sunday school workers, pastors, and missionaries. It is a great privilege to spend several years in a Christian college; it is also a great responsibility. May God help us to fulfill our obligations.

MCC news and notes

FEEDING CENTER

BEIRUT—On September 16, MCC began operating a feeding center in the Aisha Bakkar quarter of Beirut. Two hundred children, aged five to eight, whose names were submitted by the public health doctor of the area, have been receiving a hot meal once a day regularly since that time. A local committee assists in the physical operation of the center, making the project a co-operative venture between MCC personnel and local workers.

Ada Stoltzfus (Morgantown, Pa.) was largely instrumental in setting up this emergency relief service since it was found that a woman could enter local areas of the city with less difficulty and suspicion than a man. She had to make repeated trips into the area and interview a number of people before the way was finally cleared for the center to begin operations. Mr. Vlachopoulos, UNRWA Liason Officer with Voluntary Agencies, proved very helpful. He recommended the Aisha Bakkar district as being suitable for the proposed feeding center and made available to MCC a report submitted by a trained social worker of the area. When Miss Stoltzfus returned to Jerusalem on September 1, Agnes Klassen (Meade, Kan.) replaced her temporarily. On November 2, Alice Snyder from Kitchener, Ont., arrived to take over this assignment.

Ernest Lehman, area director in Jordan, reports that the request has come in for a similar center to be established in another area of Beirut. With a substantial meat shipment under way and a continuing supply of flour on hand, Mr. Lehman feels this request should be given due consideration. Lack of adequate clothing and blankets is also becoming increasingly apparent as cooler weather sets in. Relief supplies to the area are hindered, however, due to high import duties.

KOREAN YOUNG PEOPLE RESPOND TO NEED

KOREA—"Many of the older children who have bone T. B. are hospitalized from six months to two years." writes Katherine Friesen, R. N. (Marquette, Man.) "Yoo Gum Duk, who has been confined in several hospitals for three years, was becoming depressed during the summer months. He was idle a great deal of the time and had hours to think about himself. He seldom got out of bed to exercise his leg as the doctor had ordered following surgery. The need for occupational therapy was presented to a group of Christian young people who have responded in a splendid way. They have taken a genuine interest in the children and are coming faithfully to teach them reading and writing at regular times during the week. We are especially happy that they have set Sunday mornings apart for worship. Yoo Gum Duk has responded well and is much more cheerful again. He studies for two hours every day and has also taken the initiative to begin classes to drill the alphabet to his roommates, who have never had the opportunity to study before."

On one occasion Miss Friesen accompanied a local doctor to a country area, where a large one-room building was being used temporarily as a hospital following this summer's encephalitis epidemic. The epidemic had begun to subside, so only twelve patients were left in this little hospital. They had no sheets, no beds, no modern hospital equipment, and they looked very uncomfortable as they lay there on their rice mats. Swarms of flies added to their misery. As is customary in Korea, members of the family helped look after their sick. 1,500 deaths have resulted from 5,000 cases of encephalitis during the months of August and September.

LITERATURE PROGRAM

PATI, JAVA—The literature program in Java, which is partially subsidized by MCC and the Mennonite Publishing House in Scottdale, continues to make good progress. For reasons of health the editor of the Indonesia Mennonite Publishing Agency, Ds. Jan Matthijssen, went home to Holland on a six month furlough, but the work goes on. MCC worker Mrs. Wilbert Shenk (Sheridan, Ore.) reports: "The literature work which Jan started is continuing, and I believe five booklets have already been published. There is a series on Mennonite history and doctrine as well as something on the history of the Javanese church around the Muria Mountain. The response of Chinese and Javanese members has been enthusiastic. Most of the booklets sell at Rupiah 2 apiece (approximately 5 cents), which is within reach of nearly everyone.

"A few weeks ago we heard the annual statistical report on the Javanese church around the Muria Mountain. For the fourth year in a row there has been a ten per cent growth in membership, with the Pati congregation and one or two others showing twenty per cent increase! For the first time a number of students from the school became Christians during the school year. [This is a Javanese Teacher Training School where Wilbert Shenk teaches.] This certainly makes our little part of the church work seem more worthwhile."

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

AUSTRIA — 10,000 pounds of candy, donated to Hungarian Coordinated Relief by the Sinko Manufacturing Company of Chicago, Ill., have been given to MCC for distribution in Austria. The candy was originally intended for Hungarian refugee children only, but MCC reserved the right to distribute it to all children's institutions as Christmas gifts.

TRAINEE SPONSORS NEEDED BY NOVEMBER 28

Thirty-four young people from Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, France, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Japan are spending a year in the United States under the MCC-sponsored international trainee program. As is customary, they will go to different homes for the second half of their term. Sponsors are needed. Here is a unique opportunity for families to participate in a program which seeks to promote international good will.

If you are interested in opening your home to one of these trainees write to MCC, Akron, Pa. Applications should be in by November 28.

mutual aid placement

FOR SALE

Mennonite farm located on K 15, eleven miles north of Newton, Kansas. Good modern home with tall shade trees. Double garage, all weather roadway, silo, several outbuildings. 80 acres of crop land; 23 acres of pasture; chance to rent adjoining 80 acres. Located within easy driving distance of major Kansas Mennonite communities and market centers (P-256).

jottings

SERVICES IN SPANISH

HEREFORD CHURCH, BALLY, PA.: Richard Ratzlaff occupied our pulpit on the Eastern District Pulpit Exchange Sunday. Pastor Grimm preached in the Germantown Church. Our annual Fall Fellowship meal was held Oct. 26. Mrs. Gerald Yost, the former Carolyn Schnell, daughter of the Russell Schnells, missionaries to Africa, was our speaker. Daughters were born: to Mr. and Mrs. Linwood Romig, Denise Lorane; and Pastor and Mrs. Henry Grimm, Donna Sue. John S. Bieler, a retired farmer, was buried on Wednesday, Oct. 22. Earl W. Latshaw and Joyce O. Benfield were recently married in our church. Speakers have included the Cornelius A. Walls, who just came back after fourteen years of service among European refugees and who more recently had charge of the Mennonite Bible School, Basel, Switzerland; and the W. C. Voths, who have just returned from a term of service in Japan and Formosa. The Brotherhood is sponsoring a regular Sunday evening service in Spanish for migrants in our community. Dr. Elmer E. S. Johnson, pastor emeritus, spoke on the life of James B. Funk, who was our deacon for more than forty years. —Mae Latshaw, corr.

YOUTH VISIT SHUT-INS

PULASKI CHURCH, PULASKI, IOWA: Mrs. Elise Bachman served for two months on the Camp Friedenswald staff, in the kitchen. We regret the loss of three members: John Swartzendruver, July 8; Alvin Baughman, church chairman, July 10; and Alta Dieffenbach, Aug. 16. On Aug. 25 the ministers' get-together was held at the Harvey Nunemaker home in Wayland. The Builders S. S. Class picnicked at Lake Fisher in Aug. The Companions Class met Sept. 21 with Mrs. Freta Brown speaking and showing pictures of her Holy Land trip. The wedding of Evaleen Bachman to David Bertsche took place Sept. 6. On Sept. 7 the young people from our four churches met for visiting and singing to shut-ins, followed by recreation, lunch, and a devotional program. J. J. Esau was guest speaker Sept. 14. Prayer Meetings and Bible Study started in Sept. The Mary-Martha Circle entertained the Dorcas Ladies of the church Sept. 23 at a banquet. The church was given a house-cleaning this fall, and extensive repairs were made on the parsonage.—Corr.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER DINNER

BETHEL COLLEGE CHURCH, NORTH NEWTON, KAN.: About 200 enjoyed the annual Mother-Daughter dinner sponsored by the two Missionary Societies Oct. 14. The program was given entirely by mothers and daughters of our church. The Men's Brotherhood was invited to a Father-Son banquet by the Men's Fellowship of the First Mennonite Church of Newton on Oct. 7. Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Kauffman observed their golden wedding anniversary on their old home place in S. D. We are happy to have missionary W. C. Voths in our midst again. They commemorated their fortieth wedding anniversary in June. On Sept. 28 eleven new members and two associate members were welcomed into our church. On Oct. 2 the Kansas All-Mennonite Women's Meeting was held in our church.—Corr.

NEW PASTOR INSTALLED

FLANAGAN CHURCH, FLANAGAN, ILL.: Sept. 10 the W.M.S. cleaned the parsonage, and Sept. 17 the men helped move our new minister's family. Sept. 28 was a basket dinner, grocery shower, and installation service for Pastor Earl Salzman. The YPU has been busy waxing cars as a finance project, using some of the proceeds to purchase chairs for the S. S. primary dept. In August they enjoyed a chicken barbecue at Lake Bloomington, and a hayride in October. Church folks, relatives, and neighbors combined the oats crop for Mrs. Esther Albrecht and picked the corn crop Oct. 23. Missionary and Mrs. W. C. Voth spoke here the eve of Oct. 24.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

HOPEFIELD CHURCH, MOUNDRIDGE, KAN.: On Mar. 30 the Ladies' Mission Society heard Mrs. Edwin Weaver, from the India mission field. April 13 Leo Driedger, Board of Christian Service, presented the morning message and listed different avenues of service for young people. The Ladies' Mission Society of First Church, McPherson, invited our mission society to a Japanese Tea in April. Mrs. Ferd Ediger spoke on Japan. The annual S. S. picnic was held May 30 at the Cloverleaf School. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Goering of rural Halstead are the parents of Glen Ray, born July 12. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Juhnke are the parents of Anita Faye, born July 24. Cynthia Lou was born Aug. 8 to Mr. and Mrs. LaVern Stucky of North Newton; and Gregory Jay was born Aug. 12 to Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Schrag of rural McPherson. Funeral services for Mrs. L. N. Kaufman were held Sept. 17 at the Hopefield Church. Our Harvest Festival was Oct. 5. Samuel Hsieh of Formosa and Fred Unruh were the morning speakers. Afternoon messages were given by Harold Ratzlaff and Leo Driedger. At 7:30 the work at Gulfport was presented by Ardis Flickinger, Arthur Ray Coleman, Charles and Dorothy Flowers, Esther Schmidt, and Harold Schrag. The combined offerings received during the festival totaled $1,033.00. Ben Friesen accepted a call to the Meno, Okla., church. H. B. Schmidt assumes pastoral duties here Jan. 1, 1959. Until that time, however, he is with us whenever he has time. —Mrs. Sam Stucky, corr.

REFORMATION SERVICE

NORMAL CHURCH, NORMAL, ILL.: Pastor and Mrs. Harder celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Oct. 12. The Good Will Circle of the church sponsored a basket dinner following the morning service in their honor. Relatives also attended. Paul Harder, a son, announced the praise-thanksgiving program. After numbers of music, son Verlin gave a history of his parents. Dr. John Stutzman, a medical missionary under the MCC at St. Anthony, Newfoundland, will present an illustrated message in our church. He is connected with the hospital founded by Dr. Grenfell. The Bloomington-Normal Ministerial Association planned a union service for Reformation Sunday evening, Oct. 26, in the Normal Methodist Church. R. S. Kreider, Dean of Bluffton College, was the speaker. The Friendship Circle met Oct. 28. Pastor and Mrs. W. C. Voth, returned missionaries from Formosa (and previously workers in China and Japan) were special guests and speakers. Recently a church census was conducted in both Bloomington and Normal. A party was held in the church basement on Halloween evening. The children took part in the UNICEF program. The children are planning a Thanksgiving program for Nov. 26, and the adult choir will put on a Christmas pageant.—Corr.

into the beyond

MRS. CORA HOSTETLER, of Topeka, Indiana, and member of the Topeka Mennonite Church, was born February 6, 1884, and died October 6, 1958.

GERHARD G. GOERTZEN, of Reedley, California, and member of the First Church, Reedley, was born June 19, 1891, and died October 22, 1958.

conference notes

FROM A TROUBLED NATION

Friends of workers on Taiwan, or Formosa, have been wondering how the war situation is affecting mission work there. Johan Vandenberg writes,

"It seems that the only place where there is talk about the war situation is in Taipei (the capital city). We here in Hwalien follow the newspaper as a matter of interest. Our prayers go out daily to the many Christian friends and others at the front. On the other hand the increasing challenges and opportunities for Christian work and witness keep us fully occupied, and nobody here seems unduly concerned about the unpredictable nature of the war. The population does not get easily excited and has had all kinds of experiences before. The older missionaries have had so many experiences on the mainland and in concentration camps; yet they do not seem to take this seriously, and some I talked to do not seem to feel that there is danger of a full-scale war.

"The Taichung foreign community had evacuation drills, Taipei has no plans, and Hwalien had the names of all foreigners registered with MAAG just in case evacuation was necessary. As a mission we have discussed at our conference the matter of custody of our property in case of an all-out evacuation of foreigners. We decided to send to the Mission Board all property ownership papers. Our conference was otherwise dominated by a very high degree of joy and vision for the future as we together with our Lord looked ahead into another year.

"Yesterday was a great day of rejoicing. The first seven were baptized in our downtown church; this was followed by a love feast. In the afternoon communion service, many of the church leaders from Hwalien came and joined us.

"This week's evangelistic campaign crowded more than three hundred people in and around our small church. Many cards were signed by people who need spiritual help. We will follow through with back-door evangelism and through our regular church services and meetings and English classes.

"May this brief note assure you of our joy and peace in the Lord in this much troubled nation. Let us hope that those in our home churches, when they read about Formosa, think more about the salvation of souls in Taiwan than about the sensational war news. We do not know what the future brings but we are in the Lord's hand."

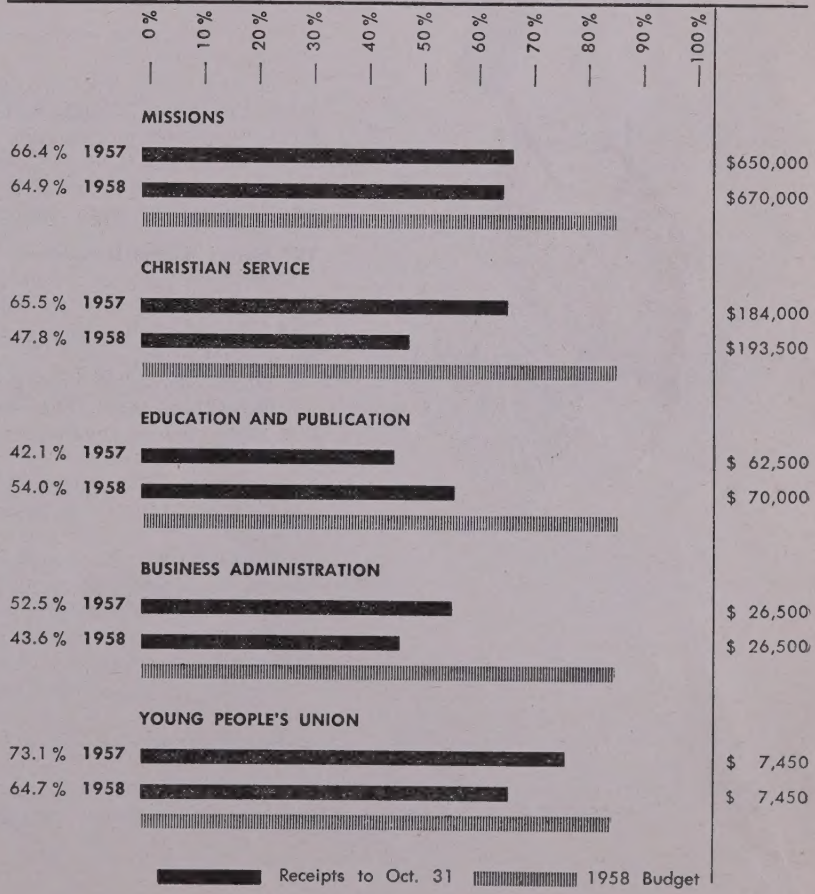
NEW CERTIFICATES OFFERED

New certificates of investment are being issued by Mutual Aid Service, Inc. of the Board of Christian Service, to replace those issued by the former mutual aid committee of the Board of Christian Service. About a year ago the work of the Committee on Mutual Aid was transferred to the newly incorporated Mutual Aid Services, Inc. These investments are formally being transferred to the new organization. The mutual aid activities of the Board of Christian Service were incorporated in order to comply more thoroughly with the standards of Christian business and to meet the requirements of the contemporary business world.

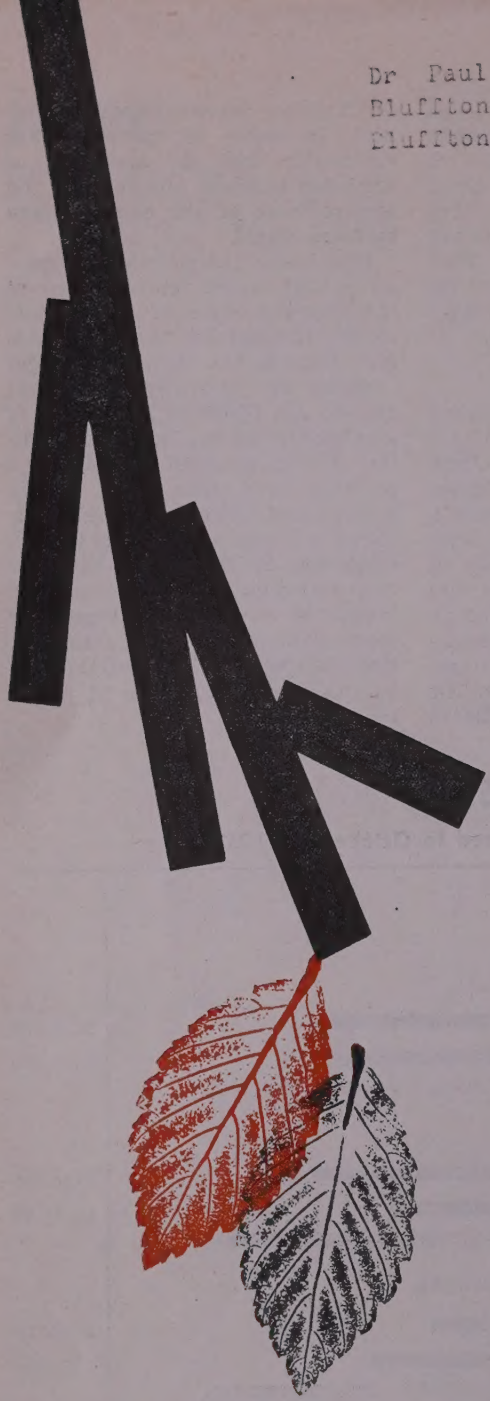
Investment channels in the service of the church represent one of the growing edges of the service. In the General Conference Mennonite Church two new investment channels are presently developing: Mutual Aid Services, Inc., which is a subsidiary of the Board of Christian Service designed to assist on a practical level with some of the problems of making a living in our Mennonite communities; and Church Extension Services, Inc., the new corporation designed to provide loan assistance to new and expanding congregations of the Conference. Headquarters for both of these agencies are at 722 Main St., Newton, Kansas.

conference stewardship

October 31, 1958, as compared to October 31, 1957



Dr Paul R Shelly
Bluffton College
Bluffton Ohio



measuring thankfulness

Two farmers were talking.

The one said, "My cattle gain more when I feed them in the pen than when they are on the range."

Replied the doubter, "Is that by your eyes or by the scale?"

Good question it was, for appearances are deceiving. But you can always measure a steer: put him on the scale.

But can you measure thankfulness?

"No," someone says, "thankfulness is in the heart. A thankful heart weighs the same as an unthankful heart."

But another person has developed what may be called a thankfulness yardstick. It needs to be tried and proved, but check these readings.

This measuring stick says that a Christian's gratitude is equal to the gift he gives to God. The thankful soul is the generous soul.

Measure the thankfulness of the total General Conference Mennonite Church by the gifts given to missions, relief, and education in 1958 and the conclusion would be—we must be more thankful.

The Mathematics of Thankfulness

Needs for the four Conference Boards in October	$470,000
Thank offerings received in October	85,000
The needs remaining for November and December	$385,000

So far this year we have contributed $575,000 to the work of the General Conference. This is a goodly amount and for this we praise the Lord. This we ought to have done, but we cannot leave the other $385,000 undone. This total may seem large, but with everyone's contribution we can do this and more. Give to the work of the General Conference through your congregational offerings or send it to the Treasurer, General Conference Mennonite Church, 722 Main Street, Newton, Kansas.

We Count These Blessings

God blesses us as individuals and as a Conference too.

The Gospel. "Put in trust with the gospel" (1 Thessalonians 2:4). The Good News has been preached to us and we have been saved by Jesus Christ.

An Open Door. "A wide door for effective work has opened" (1 Corinthians 16:9). The General Conference Mennonite Church has many places for witness—in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas.

Souls Saved. "The Lord added to the church daily" (Acts 2:47). Every day through the work of our Conference souls are being saved.

A Praying Church. "Prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God" (Acts 12:5). All that has been achieved has been fruit of years of prayer.

Faithful Workers. "That we may be fellow-workers for the truth" (3 John 8). Missionaries, relief workers, volunteers, writers, and many other workers labor in the ministry of the General Conference.

Dedicated Members. "But first gave their own selves to the Lord" (2 Corinthians 8:5). The work of the General Conference has been made possible because thousands of individuals gave themselves and then their resources.